

Massachusetts Ocean Management Initiative



Sue Tierney, Chair
Massachusetts Ocean Management Task Force
July 30, 2003

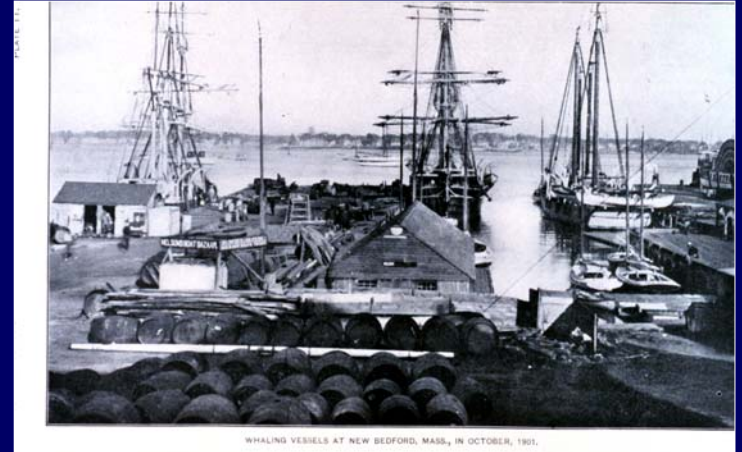
Task Force Agenda, July 30

- 9:00 am – Ocean Management Task Force Overview/Discussion
- 10:00 am – Regional Characterizations: Past, Present and Emerging Uses
- 11:30 am – Task Force discussion (*e.g.*, flag issues for future discussion)
- 12:00 pm – Lunch
- 1:00 pm – Overview of Massachusetts
Ocean Environment
- 1:45 pm – Water and Sediment Quality
- 2:00 pm – Macroinvertebrates -
- 2:15 pm – Crustaceans
- 2:30 pm – Break
- 2:45 pm – Fishes
- 3:00 pm – Large Pelagics
- 3:15 pm – Marine Mammals, Birds, Turtles
- 4:00 pm – Q and A
- 5:00 pm – Task Force Discussion



Task Force Agenda, July 31

- 9:00 am – Massachusetts Regulatory Framework for Managing the Ocean
- 10:00 am – Q & A with agency reps
- 11:00 am – Case Study
- 11:30 pm – Task Force discussion
- 12:00 pm – Lunch
- 1:00 pm – Ocean Management Models
 - Oregon Ocean Planning
 - Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management Plan
 - Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Zoning Plan
- 3:00 pm – Break
- 3:15 pm – Discussion; Next Steps
- 5:00 pm – Adjourn

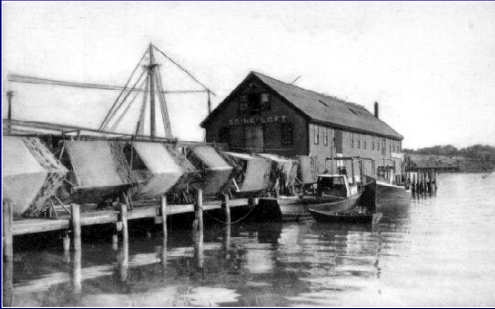


Overall Goals of the Massachusetts Ocean Management Task Force

- Define our guiding principles for the use of state waters and ocean resources
- Examine Massachusetts coastal policies and the adequacy of the current legal/regulatory framework
- Determine future information requirements for managing state waters
- Recommend framework and tools for governance and management of state waters to ensure that statewide interests are met



Ocean Management Background



- Ocean management historically focused on a single resource or activity (*e.g.*, fishing regulations or shipping lanes) rather than a comprehensive approach
- In Massachusetts, municipalities and state agencies regulate many near-shore uses (*e.g.*, mooring fields, Chapter 91 public trust licenses)
- Efforts to improve ocean management usually occur in response to significant changes in uses, activities, and technology

Massachusetts Ocean Assets: Natural Resources



- 1,500 miles of coastal shoreline (CZM)
- There are an estimated 46,964 acres of salt marsh and 41,514 acres of tidal flats in the Commonwealth
- 200-250 critically endangered Northern Right Whales remain and many stop to feed in Cape Cod Bay and Great South Channel annually

Massachusetts Ocean Assets: Economic Resources



- An estimated \$887,260,000 was spent by recreational fisherman in Massachusetts in 1998 (NOAA, 2001)
- The recreational boating industry contributes an estimated \$1.7 billion to the Massachusetts economy
- There are approximately 186,000 registered and documented vessels in Massachusetts. (Mass. Marine Trades, 2001)
- \$2 billion dollars worth of cargo imported into the Port of Boston in 2002 (Massport, 2003)

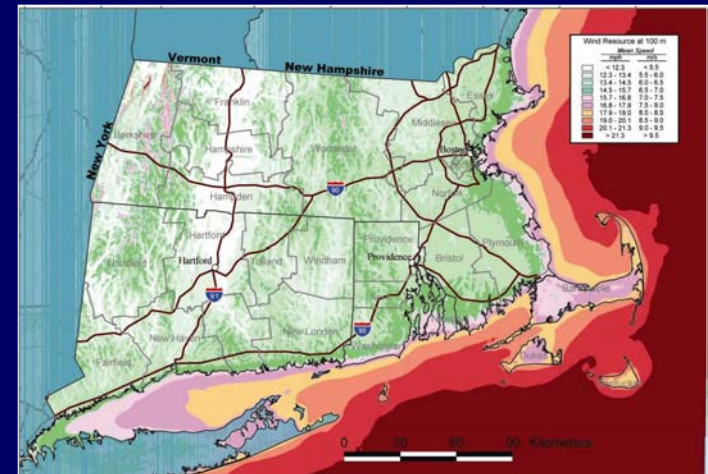
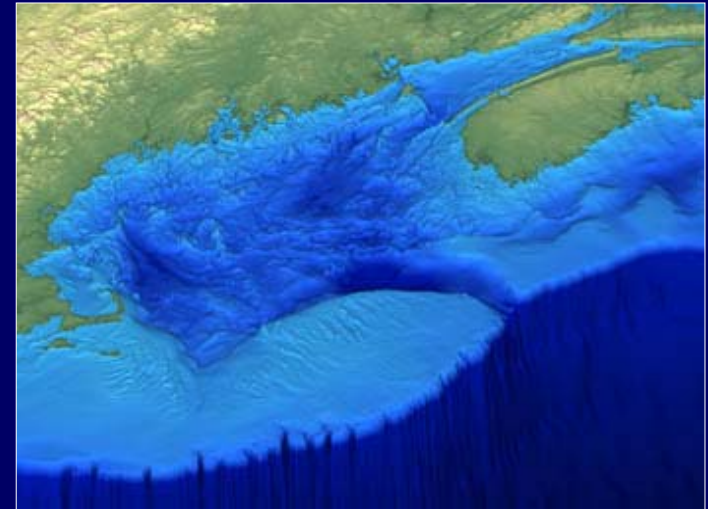
Massachusetts Ocean Assets: The Human Element

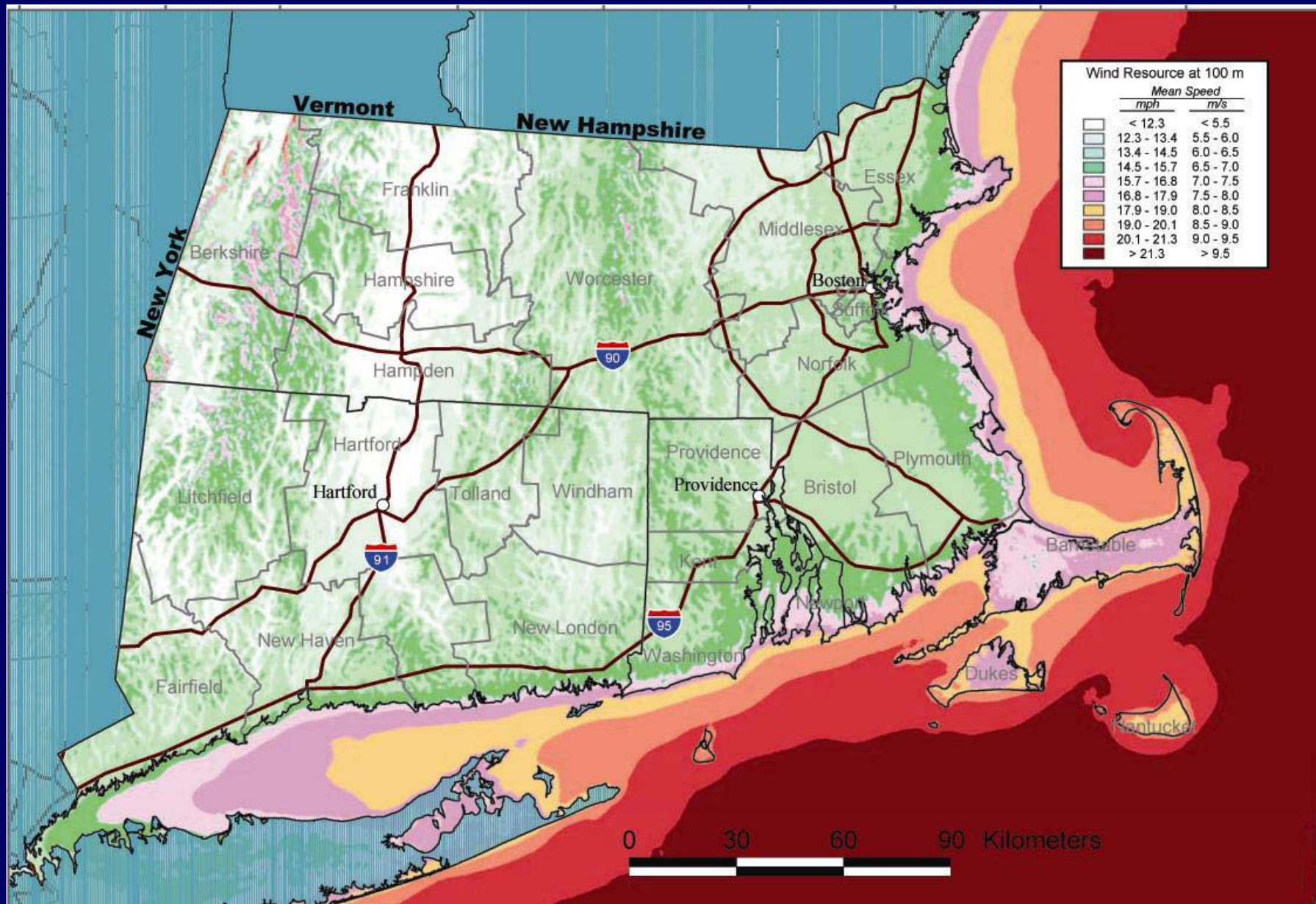


- With a 2001 census estimate of close to 6.4 million people, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is one of the most densely populated states in the United States (US Census)
- Approximately 5 million residents live within 10 miles of the ocean in the Commonwealth (Mass. Marine Trades, 2001)
- 130,000-195,000 Massachusetts residents enjoy boating on a typical summer weekend (Mass. Marine Trades, 2001)

Why so much attention on the Massachusetts Coast?

- Relatively small, densely populated coastal state
- Shallow offshore waters
- Optimal offshore wind patterns
- Proximity to waters in other jurisdictions
- Heavy recreational use
- Strong tradition of environmental leadership
- An incubator for many new marine-related technologies
- Numerous research institutions
- Multiple and competing private uses of public resource
- Strong historical, cultural, economic ties to the ocean





Ocean management is quickly becoming a hot public policy issue



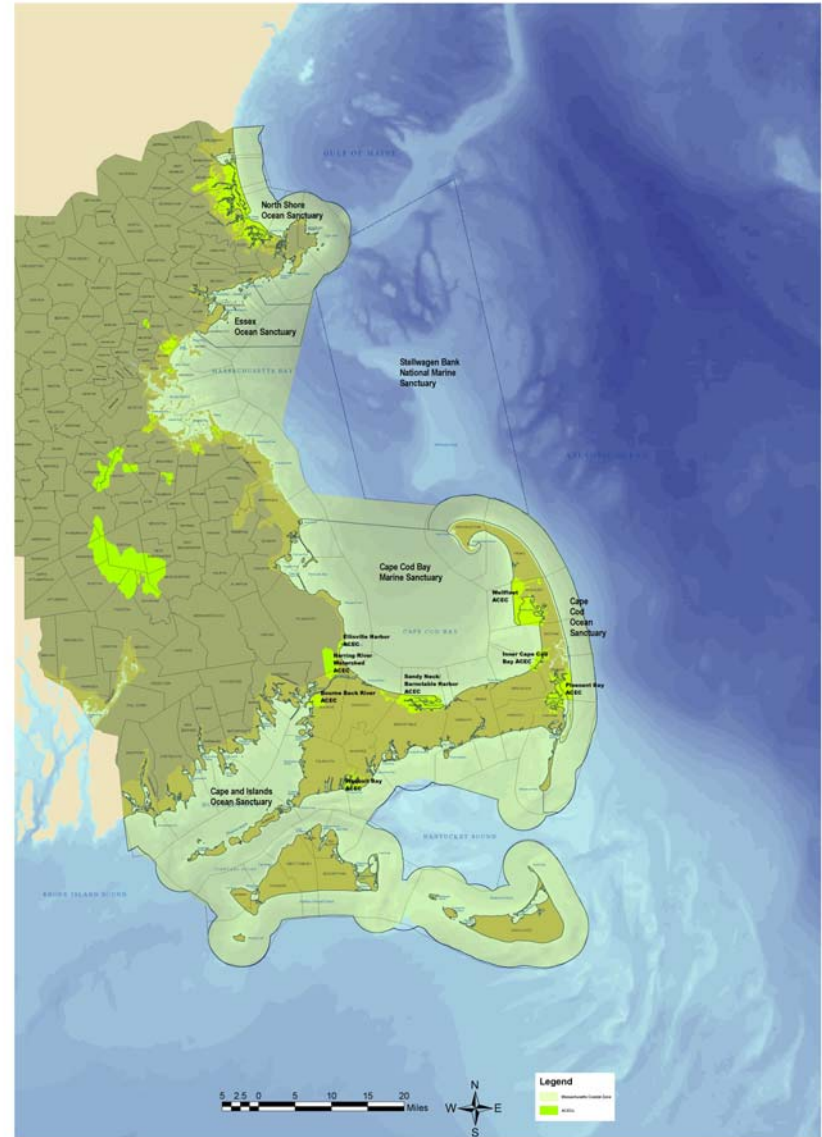
Challenges of Increased Demand on Ocean Resources

- Absence of a comprehensive management approach
- A “first come, first served” reactive approach to use allocation
- Difficult to plan for or implement ecosystem management
- Outdated ocean governance structure
- No equivalent to on-shore zoning to manage access to and use of ocean resources
- Proliferation of exclusive and competing use projects
- No clear process for leasing offshore Commonwealth tidelands



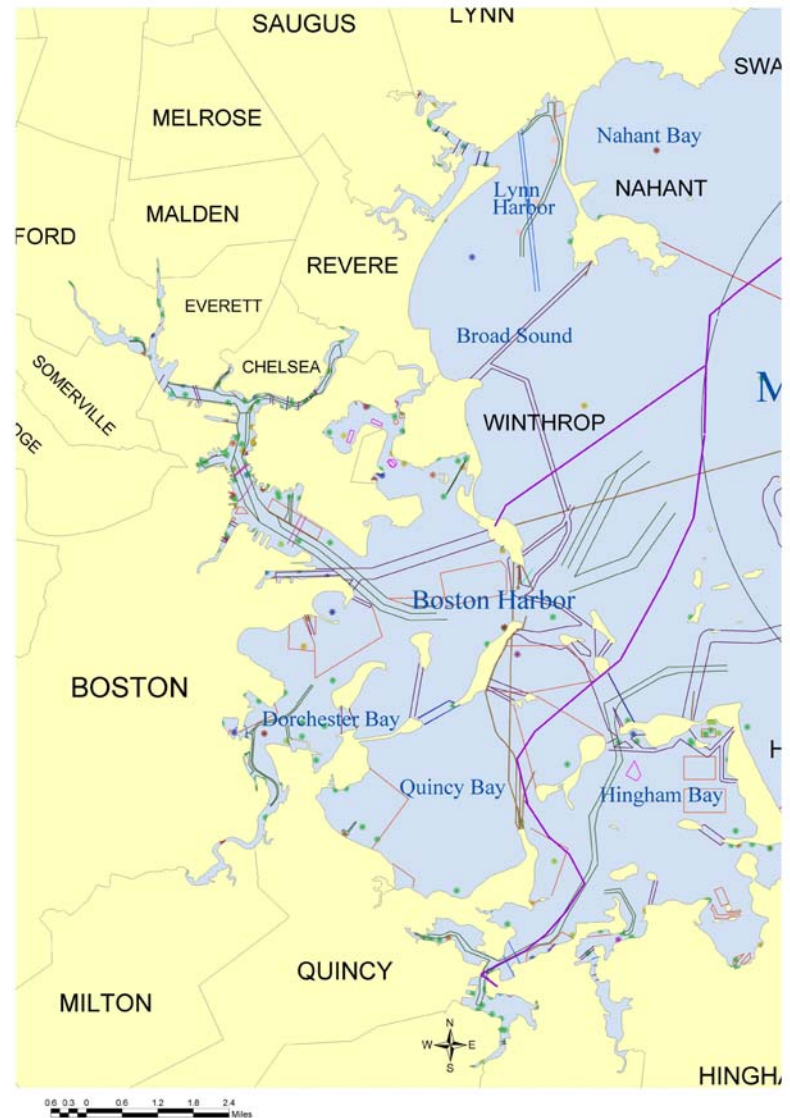
Massachusetts Coastal and Ocean Jurisdictions

- Generally, state waters extend 3 miles offshore, (except for Mass. Bay and Cape Cod Bay)
- Court ruling: the center of Nantucket Sound is federal waters
- “Doughnut hole” in Nantucket Sound creates management issues within discrete ecosystem



A Diversity of Ocean Uses

- Pipelines, navigation channels, underwater cables, & other permitted uses in Boston Harbor
- Example of ocean “clutter” (Boston *Globe*)



Massachusetts Ocean Management Initiative: Task Force Recommendations as a building block to longer-term results

- Allow for uses compatible with economic and natural resource protection goals for public ocean resource
- Harmonize uses and protections at boundaries with other jurisdictions
- Buy-in from federal ocean managers to provide seamless management of adjacent federal waters
- Formalize management of coastal waters up to 200 miles offshore through a federal-state partnership

